

Jun 19th, 10:50 AM - 11:10 AM

Evidence of a fishway restoring river connectivity in the Neotropical Region

Hugo Marques
UNESP

João Henrique Pinheiro Dias
UNESP

Igor Paiva Ramos
UNESP

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Marques, Hugo; Dias, João Henrique Pinheiro; and Ramos, Igor Paiva, "Evidence of a fishway restoring river connectivity in the Neotropical Region" (2017). *International Conference on Engineering and Ecohydrology for Fish Passage*. 17.
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Evidence of a fishway restoring river connectivity in the Neotropical Region

Hugo Marques, João Henrique Pinheiro Dias, Igor Paiva Ramos



Background

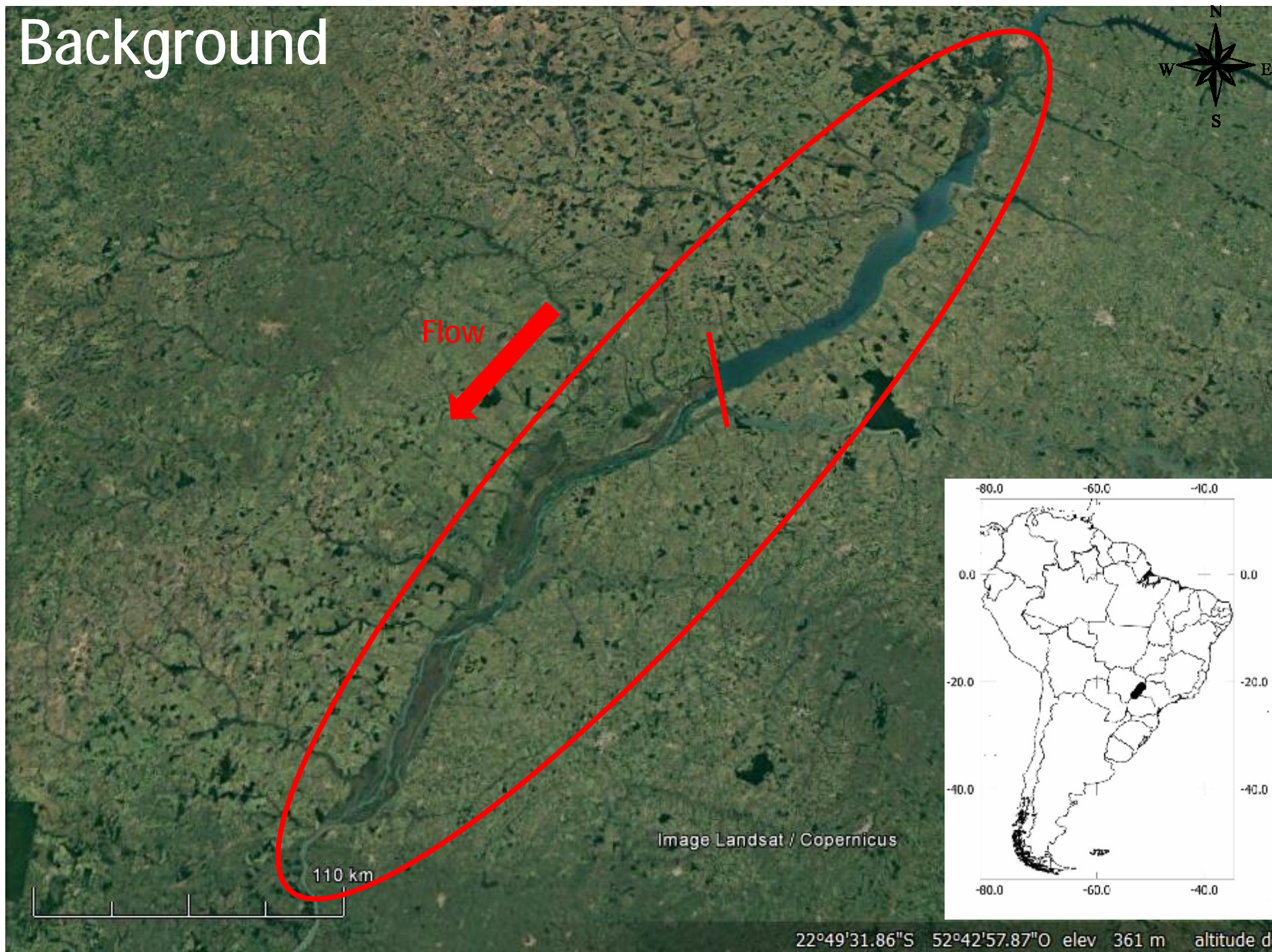
Dams

Habitat Fragmentation

Fish passages



Background



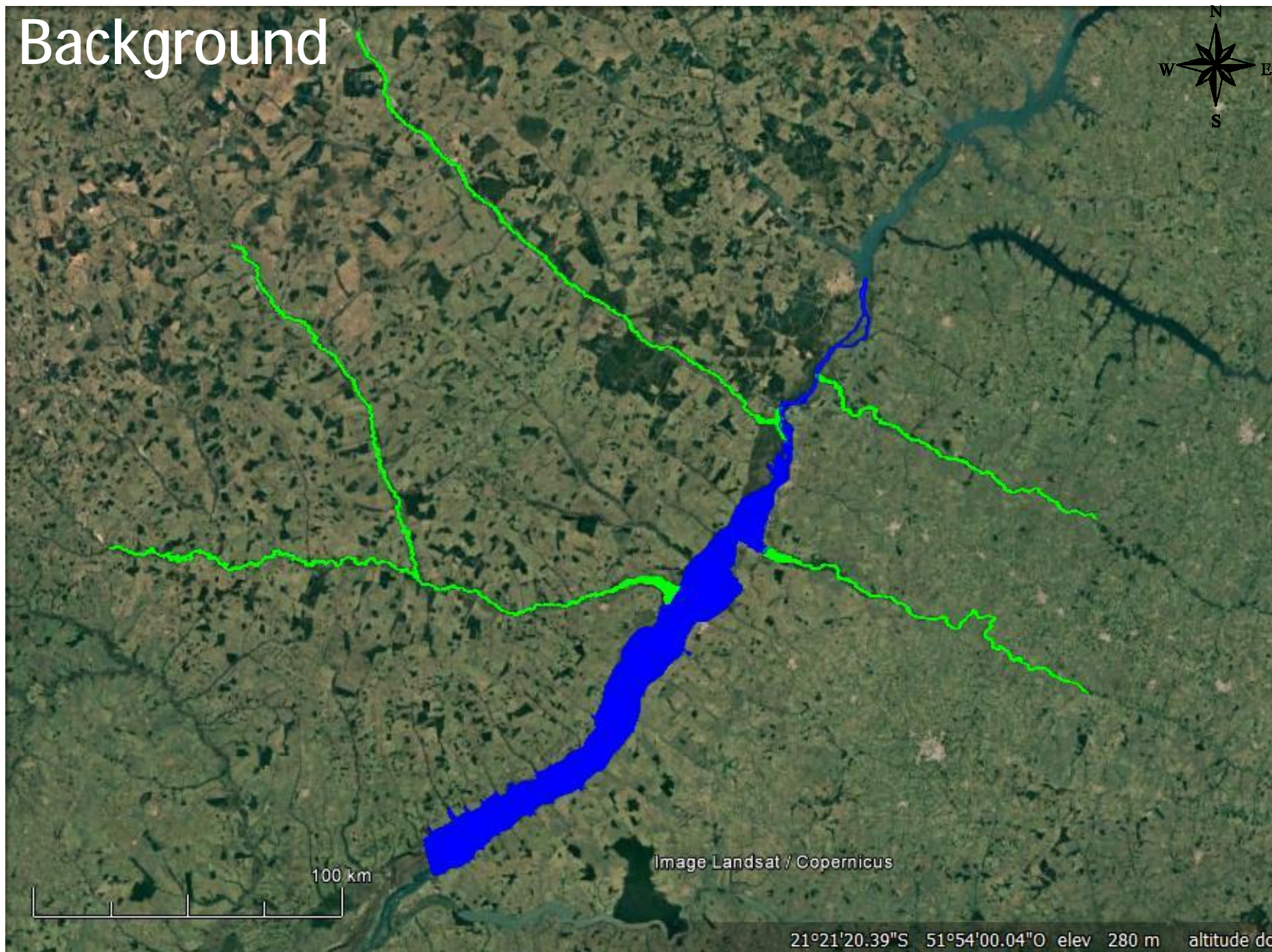
Background



Background



Background



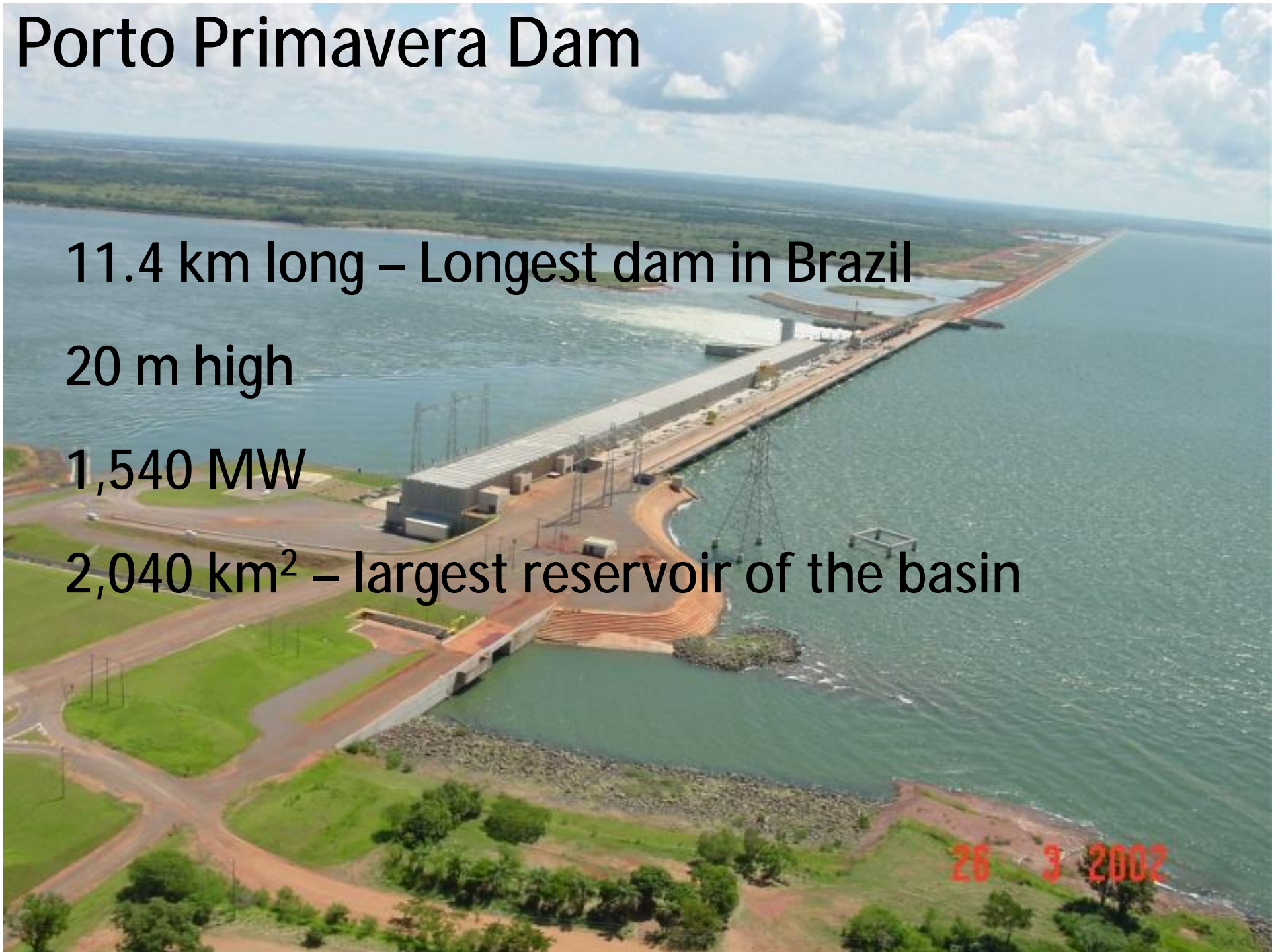
Porto Primavera Dam

11.4 km long – Longest dam in Brazil

20 m high

1,540 MW

2,040 km² – largest reservoir of the basin



A brief chronology

Beginning of construction – 1978

Filling – December 1998

Power plant operation – March 1999

Fishway operation – October 2001 (permanent)

2 years and 7 months without fishway



Fishway

Pool-weir-orifice

520 meters long

5 meters wide

up to $3.5 \text{ m}^3 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$



An aerial photograph showing a large dam structure on the left with a parking lot and some buildings. A road runs along the top of the dam. A fishway, a narrow channel designed for fish passage, runs from the reservoir on the left, through the dam, and continues downstream to the right. A large red arrow points down to the fishway. The surrounding landscape is a mix of green grass and dry, brownish vegetation. A tall electricity pylon stands on the right side of the fishway. In the background, there are more buildings and a body of water.

Can a fishway restore river connectivity?

Does the similarity between the downstream and upstream increase after the opening of the fishway?

Sampling sites

~ 900 m apart

Same river bank



Sampling

- Quarterly, 10 samples per period/site:
 - Before – Feb/1999 to May/2001
 - After – Feb/2003 to May/2005
- Gillnets:
 - 30 to 200 mm mesh
- CPUE:
 - Ind. $1000\text{m}^{-2}\text{net}/24\text{hs}$

Image © 2017 CNES / Airbus

1500 m

2011

Data das imagens: 4/20/2016 22°27'36.82"S 52°57'08.39"O elev 252 m altitude d

Are the fish community upstream and downstream correlated?

2 Mantel tests (Bray-Curtis dissimilarity index):

Upstream X Downstream - BEFORE

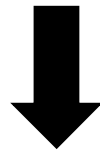
Non correlated ($r=0.12$, $p=0.34$)

Upstream X Downstream - AFTER

Correlated ($r=0.32$, $p=0.03$)

Does the β diversity between upstream and downstream higher after the fishway opening?

β diversity (Sorensen index) – Upstream X Downstream

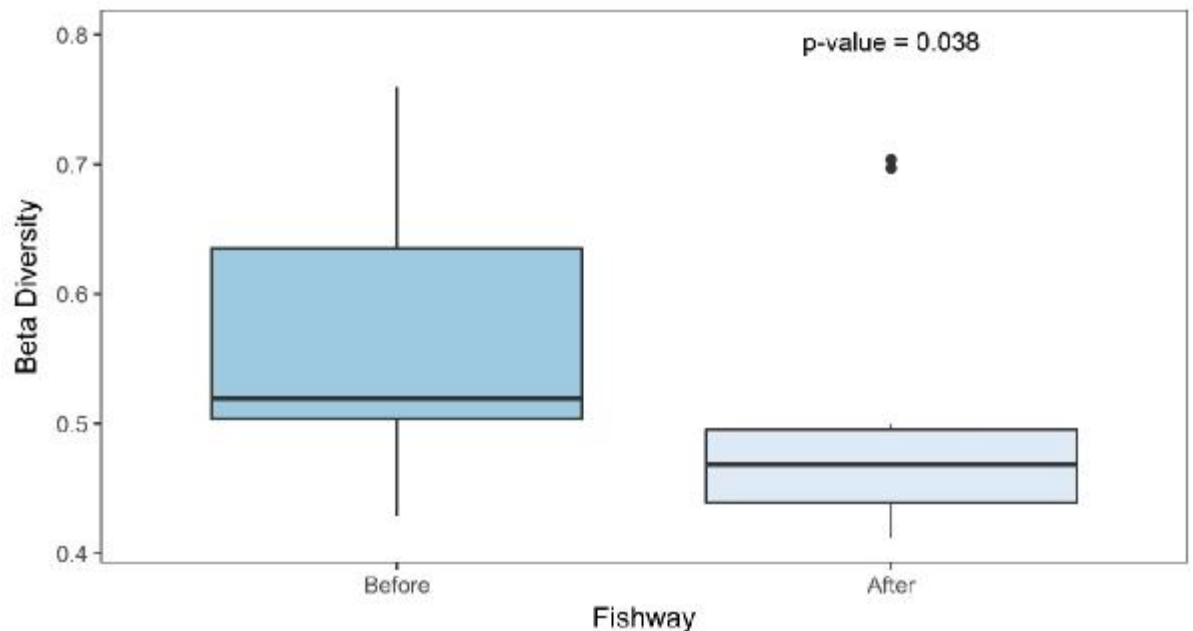


Asymptotic Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney Test – Before X After

Before – median 0.57

After – median 0.47

$Z = -2.08, p = 0.038$

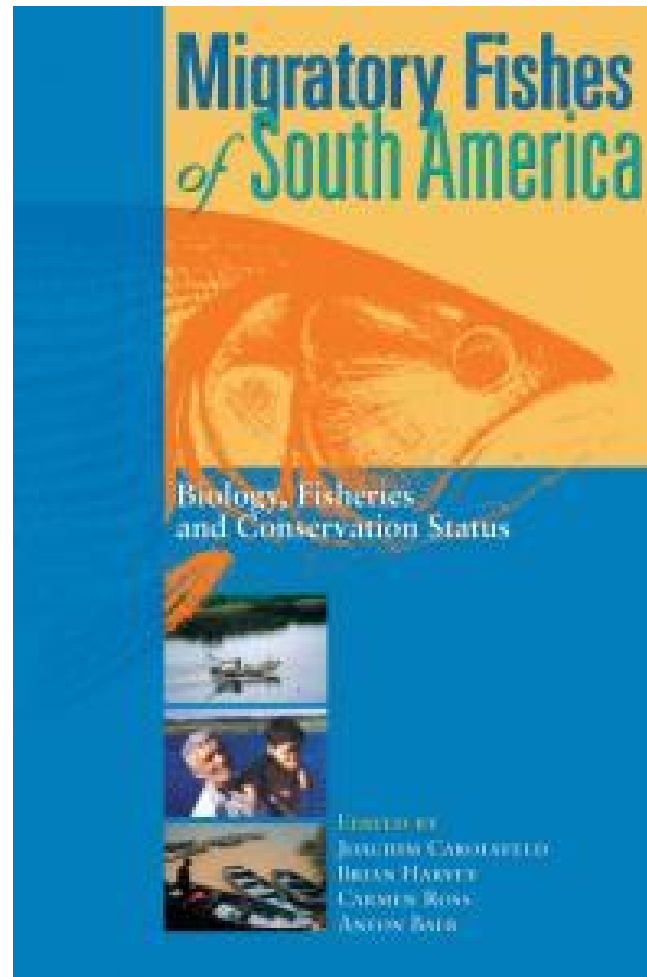


Theoretical framework on Neotropical fish passages is still under construction, due...





...high number of migratory species...





...with high diversity of migratory patterns and life histories.



Journal of Fish Biology (2012) 81, 866–881

doi:10.1111/j.1095-8649.2012.03346.x, available online at wileyonlinelibrary.com

Diversity in migratory patterns among Neotropical fishes in a highly regulated river basin

M. C. MAKRAKIS^{*†}, L. E. MIRANDA[‡], S. MAKRAKIS^{*}, H. M. FONTES JÚNIOR[§], W. G. MORLIS^{||}, J. H. P. DIAS^{||} AND J. O. GARCIA^{**}

^{*}Universidade Estadual do Oeste do Paraná, GETECH (Grupo de Pesquisas em Tecnologia de Produção e Conservação de Recursos Pesqueiros e Hídricos), Rua da Faculdade, 645, Jardim Santa Maria, 85903-000 Toledo, Paraná, Brazil, [†]U.S. Geological Survey, Mississippi Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, P. O. Box 9691, Mississippi State, MS 39762, U.S.A., [‡]Itaipu Binacional, Divisão de Reservatórios, Avenida Tancredo Neves, 6731, 85856-970 Foz do Iguaçu, Paraná, Brazil, [§]Itaipu Binacional, Assumpção, Cale De La Residenta, 1075, CC6919, Paraguay, ^{||}Companhia Energética de São Paulo (CESP), Rodovia Marechal Rondon, km 667, 16920-000 Castilho, São Paulo, Brazil and ^{**}Entidad Binacional Yacyreta, Villa Permanente, s/n Ituzaingó, Corrientes W3302, Argentina

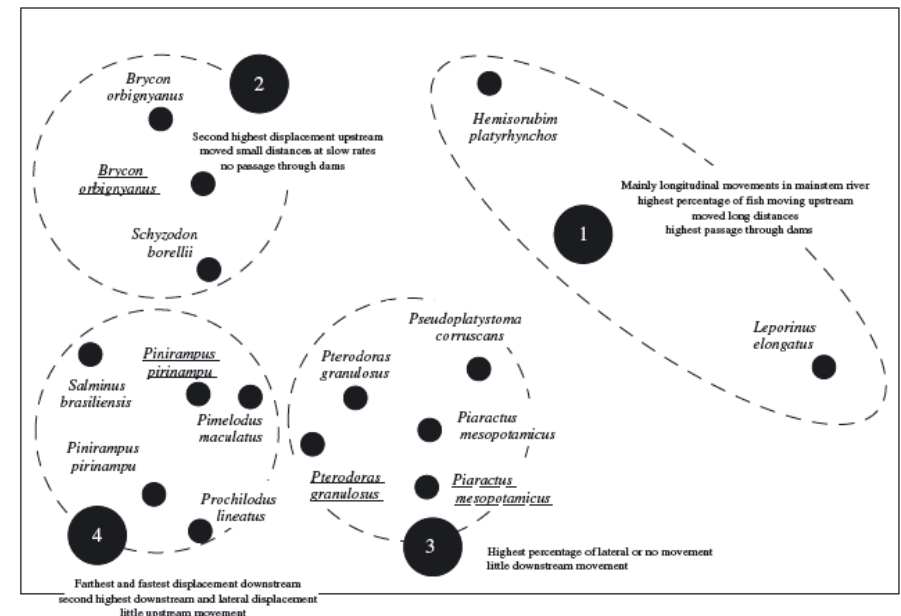


FIG. 3. Non-metric multidimensional scaling ordination of 11 fish species in the impounded Paraná River basin. Underlined species indicate juvenile life stage and circles indicate cluster numbers corresponding to cluster characteristics summarized in Table II.





So the passage performance approach is important...

Neotropical Ichthyology, 10(4):785-795, 2012
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Passage performance of long-distance upstream migrants at a large dam on the Paraná River and the compounding effects of entry and ascent

Ricardo Luiz Wagner¹, Sergio Makrakis², Theodore Castro-Santos³, Maristela Cavicchioli Makrakis², João Henrique Pinheiro Dias⁴ and René Fuster Belmont⁴

This paper presents results of a fishway evaluation performed at the Engenheiro Sérgio Motta Hydroelectric Power Plant (known as Porto Primavera) - CESP, Paraná River, Brazil. The evaluation was designed to quantify entry and passage proportions of 4 long-distance migratory fish species: *Brycon orbignyanus* (piracanjuba), *Piaractus mesopotamicus* (pacu), *Prochilodus lineatus* (curimba), and *Rhinelepis aspera* (cascudo-preto). Proportions finding and entering the fishway differed between species, ranged from 7.4 % (*Prochilodus lineatus*) to 55.4% (*Piaractus mesopotamicus*). Also, proportion passing was different between species, ranged from 31% (*R. aspera*) to 100% (*Prochilodus lineatus*). Fish that were marked and released within the fishway had greater failure rates than those that entered volitionally. Total time to pass ranged from 1.48 hours (*Prochilodus lineatus*) to 178.9 hours (*R. aspera*). Failure rates were greatest in the lower end of the fishway. Although some individuals of all species passed successfully, significant challenges remain to restoring connectivity of the upper Paraná River.

...but not enough.



We must adopt precautional principle...

Contributed Paper

Fish-Passage Facilities as Ecological Traps in Large Neotropical Rivers

FERNANDO MAYER PELICICE*[‡] AND ANGELO ANTONIO AGOSTINHO[‡]

*Graduate Course in Ecology of Inland Aquatic Ecosystems, Maringá State University, Maringá, Paraná, Brazil

[‡]Department of Biology/NUPELIA, Maringá State University, Maringá, Paraná, Brazil



Pellicice & Agostinho

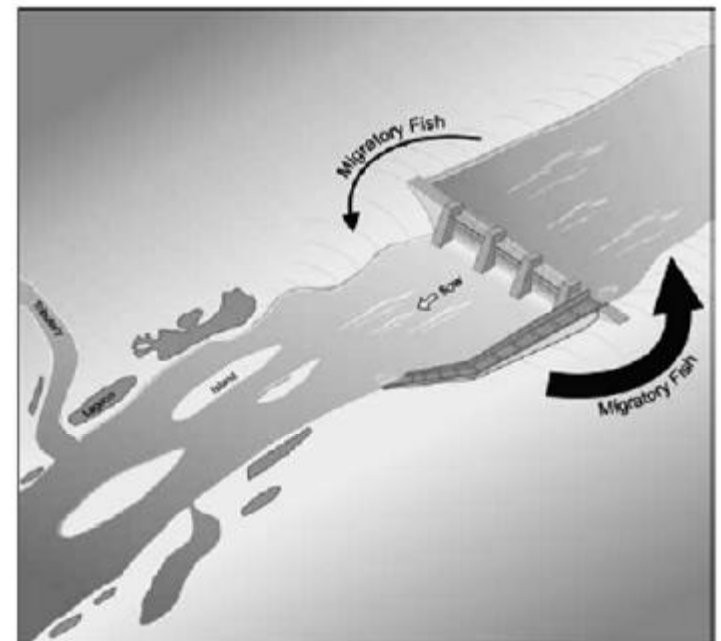


Figure 1. Illustration of how fish passes work as ecological traps in impounded rivers. The region below the dam is characterized by a high diversity of habitats, but the region above lacks critical environments. Fish that pass to the reservoir hardly ever return to areas downriver (arrow size suggests the amount of fish that pass), which ultimately decreases individual fitness.

...and integrate fish passages with life history...

RIVER RESEARCH AND APPLICATIONS

River Res. Applic. **25**: 702–712 (2009)

Published online 21 August 2008 in Wiley InterScience
(www.interscience.wiley.com) DOI: 10.1002/rra.1180

MIGRATORY FISHES OF BRAZIL: LIFE HISTORY AND FISH PASSAGE NEEDS

ALEXANDRE L. GODINHO^{a*} and BOYD KYNARD^b

^a Fish Passage Center, Federal University of Minas Gerais, 31270-901 Belo Horizonte MG, Brazil

^b Department of Natural Resources Conservation, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA



RIVER RESEARCH AND APPLICATIONS

River Res. Applic. (2011)

Published online in Wiley Online Library
(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/rra.1557

EXISTING AND FUTURE CHALLENGES: THE CONCEPT OF SUCCESSFUL FISH PASSAGE IN SOUTH AMERICA

P. S. POMPEU,^{a*} A. A. AGOSTINHO^b and F. M. PELICICE^c

^a Department of Biology, Federal University of Lavras, Lavras, Minas Gerais, Brazil

^b Department of Biology/NUPELIA, Maringá State University, Maringá, Paraná, Brazil

^c NEAMB, Federal University of Tocantins, Porto Nacional, Tocantins, Brazil

...and gene flow...

Rev Fish Biol Fisheries
DOI 10.1007/s11160-016-9441-2



RESEARCH PAPER

Genetic structure and diversity of migratory freshwater fish in a fragmented Neotropical river system

Dhiego Gomes Ferreira · Lenice Souza-Shibatta · Oscar Akio Shibatta ·
Silvia Helena Sofia · Jens Carlsson · João Henrique Pinheiro Dias · Sergio Makrakis ·
Maristela Cavicchioli Makrakis

Received: 10 September 2015 / Accepted: 16 June 2016
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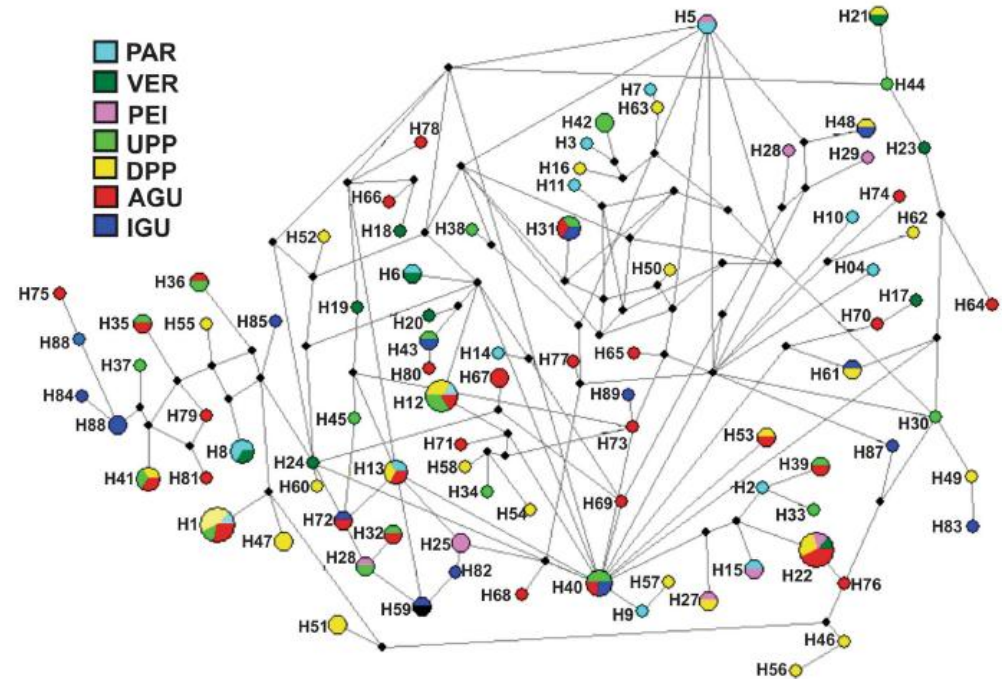


Fig. 2 Haplotype network obtained from the sequencing of the D-loop region (mtDNA) for 139 individuals of *Prochilodus lineatus*. Circle sizes are proportional to the haplotype frequency. Abbreviated sample names are shown in Fig. 1



...in an ecosystemic approach.

American Fisheries Society Symposium 73:559–592, 2010
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Migratory Fishes as Material and Process Subsidies in Riverine Ecosystems

ALEXANDER S. FLECKER*

*Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853, USA*

PETER B. MCINTYRE

*Center for Limnology & Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA*

JONATHAN W. MOORE

*Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California
Santa Cruz, California 95060, USA*

JILL T. ANDERSON†

*Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853, USA*

BRAD W. TAYLOR

*Department of Biological Sciences, Dartmouth College
Hanover, New Hampshire 03755, USA*

ROBERT O. HALL, JR.

*Department of Zoology and Physiology, University of Wyoming
Laramie, Wyoming 82071, USA*

Meanwhile...

Our study indicates that, at least in the point of view of connectivity restoration...





... Porto Primavera fishway seems to be effective, once that after the begin of its operation the β -diversity between upstream and downstream has been decreased.

Acknowledgements



A photograph of a large fish, possibly a salmon, jumping out of the water near a concrete structure. The fish is in mid-air, creating a splash. The water is turbulent and white with foam. The concrete structure is visible in the background.

Thanks for your attention!

Questions?

h.marques@outlook.com